

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/735,039

Applicant(s)

FURUTA, YUJI

Examiner

Art Unit

Christopher Onuaku

2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

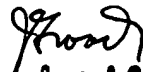
1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 10/3/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4,6,7,9-12,14&15 (now renumbered 1-12, respectively).
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.


James J. Groody
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Art Unit 262 2616

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-4,6,7,9-12,14&15 are allowable over the prior art of record.
2. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Regarding claim 1, the invention relates to an apparatus for and a method of controlling image quality reduction of image information for making a copy after image quality of image information is reduced.

The closest references Sugisaki et al (US 5,535,275) disclose a technique for preventing unauthorized copying of an analog television signal by a digital video tape recorder (VTR) in which a scrambled signal is recorded when copying of an analog input signal is not authorized, and Aucsmith et al (US 5,991,403) teach methods for encrypting video data for display on processor-based video systems.

However, Sugisaki et al and Aucsmith et al fail to explicitly disclose an apparatus for controlling image quality reduction of image information for reducing image quality of image information and conducting a digital copy by means of a digital information compression technology, where the apparatus comprises a reverse section for reversing a specific code by means of a code stream of the image information, wherein the reverse section specifies a reverse position by means of coordinates within each unit block of image information and wherein the reverse section has a random number generator for generating a random number for designating the coordinates.

Regarding claim 9, the invention relates to an apparatus for and a method of controlling image quality reduction of image information for making a copy after image quality of image information is reduced.

The closest references Sugisaki et al (US 5,535,275) disclose a technique for preventing unauthorized copying of an analog television signal by a digital video tape recorder (VTR) in which a scrambled signal is recorded when copying of an analog input signal is not authorized, and Aucsmith et al (US 5,991,403) teach methods for encrypting video data for display on processor-based video systems.

However, Sugisaki et al and Aucsmith et al fail to explicitly disclose a method of controlling image quality reduction of image information for reducing image quality of image information and conducting a digital copy by means of a digital information compression technology, where the method comprises the steps of reversing a specific code by means of a code stream of the image information, wherein the reverse step includes a step of specifying a reverse position by means of coordinates within each unit block of image information and the coordinates being designated by generating at least one random number.

Conclusion


3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher Onuaku whose telephone number is 571-272-7379. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

Art Unit: 2616

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Groody can be reached on 571-272-7950. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


COO
1/11/06


James J. Groody
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Art Unit 262 2616